

From: [Mandy Revell](#)
To: [SaltonSeaComments;](#)
CC:
Subject: PEIR Comments Salton Sea
Date: Monday, January 15, 2007 4:05:24 PM
Attachments: [Salton Sea Comments 1.07.doc](#)

Please find my attached comments regarding the PEIR for the Salton Sea.

Thank you,

Mandy Revell
Director and Waterkeeper
Inland Empire Waterkeeper
(951) 689-6842
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Riverside, CA 92503
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Inland Empire Waterkeeper

Advocacy • Education • Restoration • Enforcement

January 15, 2007

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
CA Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: 916-654-4925
Email: SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

RE: Comments on Draft PEIR for Salton Sea

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

On behalf of Inland Empire Waterkeeper, a grassroots water quality organization, I am writing to offer my comments on the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

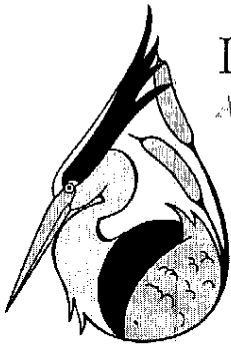
California must take action at the Salton Sea. We are all aware of the wildlife disease outbreaks and large die-offs of waterbirds and fish that have resulted from increasing salinity and selenium, and contamination that comes from agricultural and urban sources. It is our opinion that a successful plan can be constructed from the proposed alternatives in the draft report. I therefore urge your department to combine the following features from the proposed alternatives into a final preferred alternative to restore the Salton Sea:

- as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, include 38,000 to 50,000 acres of shallow habitat for shoreline species at the southern and northern ends of the sea;
- as described in Alternative 4, create concentric rings using dirt-filled barriers to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air quality protections and recreation opportunities;
- similar to the lakes found in Alternatives 5 through 7, provide a large (approximately 10,000-acre) North Lake, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the sea;
- as described in Alternatives 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8, provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed seabed to prevent dust pollution;
- and as described in all of the proposed alternatives, construct shallow saline habitat ("early start habitat") immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process.

A final preferred alternative that includes all of these components, each of which is present and analyzed in one or more of the draft alternatives, would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

Sincerely,

Mandy Revell
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